



SS-15

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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Z R 280635Z MAY 74 ZFF-4CONFIDENTIAL/EXDIS

FM USINT DAMASCUS

Classification

TO RUESJR/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM FLASH 231

28 MAY 74 0659Z

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 681

RUESAD/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 231

State Dept. review completed

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 0946

EXDIS

FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (HENRY A. KISSINGER), SY

SUBJECT: CALL ON SOVIET AMBASSADOR

1. AS YOU INSTRUCTED, I CALLED ON SOVIET AMBASSADOR MOUKHITDINOV THIS MORNING AT 8:45. I CONVEYED TO HIM YOUR MESSAGE FOR MR. GROMYKO EXPRESSING (A) YOUR WARM PERSONAL GREETINGS, AND (B) YOUR SINCERE REGRETS THAT YOU WERE NOT ABLE TO SEE HIM IN DAMASCUS.

2. SOVIET AMBASSADOR SAID HE WOULD CONVEY THIS MESSAGE IMMEDIATELY. AS EXPECTED, HE TRIED TO PROBE TO ASCERTAIN MY VIEWS ON THE SITUATION. I TOLD HIM THAT OF COURSE WE WERE ALL HOPEFUL BUT THAT I HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AND WAS THEREFORE IN NO POSITION TO DISCUSS ANY SPECIFICS. HE ACCEPTED THIS EXPLANATION WITH SEEMING EQUANIMITY.

3. MOUKHITDINOV WANTED TO KNOW WHEN SEC. SISCO WAS ARRIVING. AT THAT POINT IN THE MORNING I DID NOT KNOW AND TOLD HIM SO. MOUKHITDINOV SAID HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE DAY SHOULD I HAVE ANY MESSAGE FOR MR. GROMYKO FROM MR. SISCO.

4. MOUKHITDINOV ALSO SENDS HIS BIRTHDAY WISHES TO YOU AND EXPRESSED HIS ADMIRATION FOR YOUR EFFORTS, WHICH WE BOTH AGREED WERE "FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF THE PEOPLE IN THE AREA AND PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD."

5. COMMENT: MOUKHITDINOV APPEARED TO BE GENUINELY PLEASED BY MY CALL.

SCOTES

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